

**SMEMO #:** PS94-006

**To:** Permit Section Staff  
**From:** Dennis M. Myers  
**Date:** September 29, 1994  
**Subject:** Fugitive particulate emissions

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There has been some confusion over what is considered to be fugitive particulate emissions, and what is considered to be a point source emission in regard to mining type operations. Common provisions defines fugitive emissions as "emissions which could not reasonably pass through a stack, chimney, vent or other functionally equivalent opening".

The problem with the above definition is what does "reasonably" mean? For sources such as haul roads and stockpiles, it's clear that these are fugitive sources. However, for other types of sources, such as screen, crushers, conveyors, transfer points, etc., the determination is not as clear. In an effort to make these determinations more clear and consistent, please use the following policy for determining whether emissions are fugitive:

If there is no stack on the unit or process, then the unit or process will be considered to be fugitive and will be subject to the appropriate visible emission guidelines. Emissions should be coded as fugitive emissions, and do not count toward major source status unless the source is one of the listed sources described in Regulation No. 3, Part A, Section I.B.58.b.(i).

If the unit or process (crusher, screen, etc.) has a capture and control system, then it will be considered a point source and will be subject to applicable opacity standards. The emissions will count toward major source status, and should be coded as process emissions.

If there is a more specific standard, such as NSPS, Part A, subpart 000 (nonmetallic mineral processing plants) then that standard will still also apply.